

who has really made a difference in the young, rising leadership of our armed forces, Mr. John Hamilton. Next week Mr. Hamilton will officially step down from the Third Congressional District Academy Candidate Selection Board after 29 years of service and volunteering his time, effort and talent to three different Members of Congress: former Congressman Steve Bartlett, former Congressman Jim Collins and me.

In this advisory capacity, John offered his wisdom and expertise to help identify and recommend hundreds of students from the Third Congressional District for nomination to a prestigious service academy, including one who went on to become a Rhodes Scholar.

The Third District of Texas is home to some of the best and the brightest young people. As a Member of Congress it is always an honor to recommend fine students to our nation's service academies. These students join the premiere military force of the world and become leaders of men and women in uniform. John Hamilton played an instrumental role in helping Third District young adults achieve their dream of military service.

My friend, John, was perfectly situated to play the role of advisor for the Third Congressional District Academy Candidate Selection Board. He graduated in 1968 from the prestigious United States Naval Academy with a B.S. in Engineering/Management.

He knows firsthand the rigors, discipline, and inner strength needed to thrive, not just survive, at a service academy. I know his experience in Annapolis helped him make many decisions.

John also graduated from SMU School of Law in 1976. He is a Lifetime Chapter Member of the North Texas Chapter of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and a member of the State Bar of Texas. Since 1994 he has served as President of Hamilton & Hartsfield, P.C., a law firm specializing in general corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, and business transactions. He is a shining example of a well-rounded patriot eager to give back to his country and his community. I am thankful for his service and I will miss his valued opinions and leadership.

Godspeed, John Hamilton. God bless you and God bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, November 5, 2009, I missed rollcall vote No. 857. Had I been present for rollcall vote No. 857, on agreeing to H. Res. 885, I would have voted "aye."

CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2868, the Chemical and Water Security Act.

As the bill stands now, I cannot vote in favor of this legislation. A provision in the bill to require Inherently Safer Technology, IST, in chemical facilities would likely create costly mandates for local farm suppliers and jeopardize the availability of widely-used fertilizer and pesticides. This language could inadvertently have the effect of causing my district to lose much needed jobs. While I support the intention of this legislation, to safeguard our chemical and drinking water facilities from terrorist attack, the current language would severely impact the ability of farmers to produce food and would adversely impact farmers all across my district.

It is my hope that as this legislation progresses that the concerns of the agricultural community will be addressed and I can vote for the final product.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR ESTEEMED VETERANS AND FOUR LOCAL WASPS IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THEIR CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARDS

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, nearly 70 years ago a group of extraordinary young women answered the call of duty and accepted a mission that no generation had before them. Just over 1,100 women eagerly left the grounded existence of home and family, climbed into the cockpits of military aircraft and set about to do their part in the good fight of World War II. By 1943 they had come to be known as WASPs: Women Airforce Service Pilots. They had the verve of Amelia Earhart, the poise of their upbringing and a dutiful patriotic spirit to get them through. Some 38 perished during their 2-year tenure while fulfilling a variety of missions: testing aircraft and ferrying planes from coast to coast among them. Today we honor the service of four of these WASPs who reside in the Third Congressional District of California: Dorothy C. Goot and Captola Johnson, both of Fair Oaks; Barbara H. Kennedy and Doris K. Ohm, both of Sacramento. We thank you for your service. On Veterans Day, as we pay special tribute to men and women in the military, we especially thank you for your example and sacrifice. Women sustain the Armed Forces of these United States more today than at any other time in history. We thank you. We salute you all.

HEALTHY KIDS ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the "Healthy Kids Act," legislation that will focus the resources of the federal government on ending the epidemic of obesity that threatens a generation of America's children.

Over the past three decades, the rate of childhood obesity has risen to crisis propor-

tions. Current data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that rates of obesity have more than doubled for children aged 2 to 11 years and more than tripled for adolescents aged 12 to 19 years. According to the CDC, 32 percent of children are overweight, 16 percent are obese, and 11 percent are extremely obese. In some racial and ethnic groups, in low-income populations, and among recent immigrants, the rates of obesity among children and youth are alarmingly high.

The health consequences for these children are very serious. They are at much greater risk of developing diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, asthma, and other diseases than their non-obese peers. Many children are subjected to ridicule and bullying that damage their emotional well-being. Beyond the tragic consequences for the children themselves are the effects on the American economy. Obese children are at risk of growing into obese adults who do not participate fully in the workforce because of employment discrimination, lost productivity due to illness and disability, and premature death. If the childhood obesity epidemic continues at its current rate, conditions related to type 2 diabetes, such as blindness, coronary artery disease, stroke, and kidney failure may become common conditions of middle age. Health care costs for this population are likely to rise to an extent we are only now beginning to appreciate.

Many factors contribute to the childhood obesity epidemic. Many children's diets are too high in fats and carbohydrates and do not include enough fruits and vegetables. At the same time, our children are less active than they were a generation ago. More time front of the television means that kids are exposed to over 20,000 commercials a year, very few of which are encouraging them to exercise and eat right. Residential communities often do not have safe sidewalks or recreation areas to draw children off the couch and outside to run and play. Underfunded schools have cut back on physical education programs and are resorting to revenues from vending machines full of junk food to supplement public funding.

The Healthy Kids Act will provide critical Federal leadership to address this crisis by establishing an Office of Childhood Overweight and Obesity Prevention and treatment within the Department of Health and Human Services. The Director of this office will be the Federal Government's champion on this issue. The Director is charged with evaluating the effectiveness of existing Federal policies, programs, and research efforts and identifying future needs; implementing Federal support measures for State, tribal, and territorial programs; and carrying out a comprehensive, long-term, national campaign to prevent weight gain and obesity among our children and youth. The Director will also have an important role in promoting and supporting school wellness policies that monitor students' body mass index, provide parents with information on health and nutrition, and implement age-appropriate physical activity programs.

In carrying out these responsibilities, the Director will consider the unique needs of racially and ethnically diverse groups and high-risk populations, including low-income populations and communities. The Director will also take advantage of the expertise of the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Defense, Interior, Housing and Urban